



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 29, 2011

The Honorable Ken Bennett
Secretary of State
1700 West Washington, 7th Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Senate Bill 1329 (public employees; lobbying; political activities)

Dear Secretary Bennett:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1329. I strongly support the principle that while performing the work of the people, public employees should not use public resources for political activities or lobbying. However, state law already addresses this issue. Senate Bill 1329, threatened to muddy the waters significantly – especially because it does not define “public employee” or “political activity.” For instance, legislators are not clearly excluded from these limits. Would this bill prevent legislators from speaking to a community group assembled for lunch on the capitol lawn, or from talking to other members to encourage support of their bills?

I look forward to working with the Legislature in the future to more effectively eliminate potential abuses of public resources in political activities.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Cc: The Honorable Russell Pearce
The Honorable Andy Tobin
The Honorable Frank Antenori
Senate Secretary
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Arizona News Service